

Called meeting of the City Council
Austin Texas April 9th, 1900
Hon J.W. McCall Mayor presiding
Roll Called

Present Alderman Dunham Fischer Morris Martinen
Nolen & Stumpf

Absent None.

The following Call of the Council was read

Mayors office Austin Tex 3/9/1900.

A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Austin is hereby called to convene in the Council Chamber at the City Hall at 2 o'clock P.M. this 9th day of April 1900 for the purpose of considering the emergency that confronts the City by reason of the recent floods in the Colorado River and elsewhere in the City, the washing away of the City-dam and destruction of its Water Light & Power Plant; and to take such action in the premises as the Council may seem fit

John McCall

Wallass

Mayor

H.B. Dunham

A.C. Nolen

Milton Morris

I hereby certify that the following Aldermen have been notified to meet in Council Chamber at 2 P.M. April the 9th 1900. Dunham Martinen Nolen Fischer Morris Stumpf Glass.

Arthur C. Marshall

The following resolution passed by the Water Light Commission was read, and on motion of Alderman Fischer was accepted and ordered spread upon the Minutes of the Council

Resolved by the Water, Light and Power Commission of the City of Austin:

1. That we deeply regret the great disaster which has befallen our beautiful City by the break in the dam, which occurred at 11.20 a.m. on Saturday, the 7th day of April ad 1900, and especially the great loss of life attending it.
2. That we sympathize with and hereby tender our sympathy and condolence to the families and relatives of those whose lives were lost in the disaster.
3. That in our opinion a steam engine and boilers should at once be secured and connected with the pumps in the pumping station, and the pumping of water to the City and its citizens resumed at the earliest moment practicable.
4. That steps should immediately be taken to rebuild the dam and proven house upon better and surer plans, and to reconstruct the same in season to securing it and its foundations against rains and possible showers, and so lowering the tendency to provide against a scarcity of water in time of drought.

5 That to accomplish these purposes we invite the Co-operation of the City Council and the Citizens of Austin, and also of the Holders of the bonds issued for the construction of the plant.

6. To carry out these purposes we are of the opinion that the City and Citizens should be content to let the bonded indebtedness of the City for the construction of the plant remain as it now is and pay the interest on it regularly as it falls due, as soon as satisfactory understanding can be had with bond holders, and that the Holders of the bonds should be willing to furnish the amount of money necessary to repair the damage done to the plant and to place it in good condition.

7. That to secure the expression of our Citizens on this subject we hereby request the following Gentleman to act as a Committee of Citizens for that purpose:

A. P. Knobridge, John Premond, Dr. H. Evans, Walter F. Fisher, C. M. Searbridge, John Orr, A. J. Teagarden, C. H. Garhard and Lewis Hancock, Dr. Pilos, Jas. R. Johnson, George Littlefield, J. B. Cochran, A. Hooper, G. W. Robertson and W. B. Walker.

Alderman Fischer stated that he had received from Mr Harry Landa of New Braunfels a telephone message expressing sympathy with the City in her present troubles and offering any assistance he could render.

On motion the thanks of the Council were tendered Mr Landa and the Clerk directed to notify him of the action.

Alderman Fischer stated that he saw present in the Council Chamber a majority of the Members of the Water & Light Commission and moved that they be invited to address the Council if they so desired, which motion prevailed.

By Alderman Morris An Ordinance appropriating the sum of \$36,662²⁵ to pay the account of the Water and Light Commission for Water & light furnished the City for public purposes to March 31st 1900. The ordinance was read the first time. Alderman Dunham stated that he would be glad to hear from the Water & Light Commission as to what they proposed to do in regard to furnishing the City with water etc. Judge Doorn one of the Commissioners then addressed the Council. After which the ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote. Years Aldermen Dunham Fischer Morris Mortimer Hoben & Stumpf

Name Alderman Glass

Alderman Dunham offered the following resolution which was read and adopted.

"Resolved that the City Council endorse sections 1, 2, 3 of the resolutions of the Water, Light & Power Commission this day adopted and join in the request that the Citizens named in section 4 of said resolutions take steps to secure

Harry Landa
message to

Ord. offr.
\$36,662²⁵
pay for Water
Light furnishing

6

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Concerted action by our Citizens, the Commission and the Council to provide for a new plant, and a re-adjustment of the water & Light bonded debt"

By Alderman Glass. An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$130.⁰⁰ for the purpose of paying extra sanitary expenses rendered necessary by the recent floods. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following Vote
 Yeas Aldermen Dunham Fisken Glass Morris Martindale Nolen and
 Shumpp
 Nays None.

Alderman Nolen moved that the Street Committee be appointed as a Committee, with power to act, to confer with the Commissioners Court of Travis Co. looking to repairing the approaches to the Colorado River Bridge, and Congress Avenue South of bridge

On Motion the motion of Alderman Nolen was amended so as to require the Committee to report the result of the conference to the Council at a called meeting to be held at 6 o'clock P.M. April 10th 1900. and the motion as amended was then adopted

Alderman Fisken offered the following resolution which was read and unanimously adopted by a rising vote

"Be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Austin hereby extends its heartfelt sympathies to the parties who lost any member of their family in the late catastrophe at the dam and that a copy of this resolution be mailed, by the Clerk of this Council, to each family visited by this affliction"

Alderman Morris offered the following resolution which was adopted.

"Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, that the Chief of the Fire Department of said City be and is hereby instructed to investigate the cost and advisability of repairing the Steam Fire Engine now owned by the City and stored at the City Hall; and to have said Engine repaired at once if in his judgment such a course be deemed advisable"

By Alderman Morris An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$1000.⁰⁰ for the purpose of purchasing certain apparatus for the use of the Fire Dept of the City of Austin, and for paying the cost of repairs of Colorado Hose Wagon

The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote

Yeas Aldermen Dunham Fisken Glass Morris Martindale Nolen & Shumpp
 Nays None.

By Alderman Morris An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$1000.⁰⁰ for the purpose of purchasing two chemical tanks for the use of the Austin Fire Dept. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote
 Yeas Aldermen Dunham Fisken Glass Morris Martindale Nolen & Shumpp
 Nays None

Alderman Stump moved that the City Clerk be directed to correspond with the different factories and find out the prices of tanks and that the Chief of the Fire Dept be authorized and directed to purchase the extinguishers at once, which motion prevailed.

Alderman Stump moved that the City Clerk be directed to advertise for bids for Fire Hose, and that the Fire Commissioners be authorized to contract for same, which motion prevailed.

Ciderman Glass offered the following resolution which was adopted:

"Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin That a Special Committee of three Members of this Council be appointed to investigate the advisability of placing Stand Pipes along the banks of Colorado River and the cost of operating same."

On motion the Council adjourned.

Geo. Johnson
City Clerk

"A. W. Johnson, City Clerk of
Austin, Texas, appointed a
Committee on Stand Pipe, etc.